NAVY MEDICINE *FAST FACTS*

July 2022

MISSION

Navy Medicine provides well-trained PEOPLE, working as expeditionary medical experts on optimized PLATFORMS operating as cohesive teams demonstrating high reliability PERFORMANCE to project medical POWER in support of Naval Superiority.

ONE NAVY MEDICINE

ACTIVE DUTY + RESERVE

SUPPORTING 2 SERVICES

BLUESIDE — UNITED STATES NAVY		GREENSIDE — UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS	
Hospital Corpsmen:	19,300 AC / 2,300 RC	Hospital Corpsmen:	5,300 AC / 820 RC
Medical Corps Officers:	3,240 AC / 330 RC	Medical Corps Officers:	420 AC / 120 RC
Nurse Corps Officers:	2,590 AC / 990 RC	Nurse Corps Officers:	140 AC / 40 RC
Dental Corps Officers:	890 AC / 130 RC	Dental Corps Officers:	240 AC / 60 RC
Medical Service Corps Officers:	2,320 AC / 190 RC	Medical Service Corps Officers:	320 AC / 60 RC

* Total Force Estimates

OPERATING ABOVE, ON, AND BELOW THE SURFACE

SUBMARINE INDEPENDENT DUTY CORPSMEN (IDC):

The sole medical provider on every boat in the Submarine Force today

170+ Sub IDCs supporting:

- *3 classes of fast attack submarine (SSN): the Los Angeles (34), Seawolf (3), and Virginia (21) classes*
- *1 class of guided-missile submarines (SSGN): Ohio (4)*
- *1 class of ballistic-missile submarines (SSBN): Ohio (14) and 1 new class (Columbia) under construction*

Submarine IDC How-to:

- ***Meet basic eligibility requirements:***
  - *Minimum 60 hours of direct patient care experience*
  - *U.S. Citizenship, paygrade E-5 to E-7*
  - *Complete Submarine Duty Physical Examination*
  - *Secret clearance eligibility*
  - *Letters of recommendation from Senior Enlisted Leader, as well as a current Submarine IDC*
- ***Complete 58-week submarine IDC course at Naval Undersea Medical Institute (NUMI) in Groton, CT.***
- ***NUMI has 45 sub IDC class seats available/year.***

NOTABLE SUB IDCs:

- ***ChPhM John Harrison Davis***
  First submarine IDC (1924)
- ***PhM2c Jesse Lester***
  First submarine IDC Killed in Action (1942)
- ***ChPhM James Scire***
  IDC aboard USS Redfish, Silver Star recipient (1945)
- ***HMCM Charley Williams***
  First FORCE with warfare badge (1991)
- ***HMCM Mike Stewart***
  First enlisted Director of the Hospital Corps (1994)
- ***HMCM Amanda McDevitt***
  First female submarine IDC (2016)

LEGENDARY BOATS OF THE SILENT SERVICE:

- ***USS Holland (SS-1)***
  First commissioned U.S. submarine (1900)
- ***USS Thresher (SS-200)***
  Most highly decorated submarine in World War II (1945)
- ***USS Nautilus (SSN-571)***
  First nuclear-powered submarine (1954)

USS Holland

USS Thresher

USS Nautilus

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UNDERSEA MEDICAL OFFICERS (UMOs):

- *Navy physicians trained in the unique physiological stresses of hyperbaric and hypobaric environments, exposure to low level ionizing radiation, atmospheric control issues, and long periods in isolated environments.*
- *UMOs serve diverse operational communities such as Submarines, Navy SEALs, Navy Explosive Ordinance Disposal, Navy Dive Lockers, Marine Corps Force Recon and Marine Corps Raiders. Research and clinic billets are also available.*
- ***290+** active duty physicians qualified as Undersea Medical Officers and **107** Undersea Medical Officers billets supporting operational requirements.*

- *Complete **6** months of rigorous training divided between the Naval Undersea Medical Institute (NUMI) in Groton, CT, and the Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center (NDSTC) in Panama City, FL.*
- *The training includes didactic lectures on diverse subjects such as Radiation Fundamentals, Submarine Preventive Medicine Programs, Special Duty Physical Performance and Recognition and Treatment of Diving Injuries.*
- *UMO candidates must run, perform land calisthenics and endure challenging pool sessions. Pool sessions include swimming, finning, treading water with weight and prolonged underwater breath-holding.*
- *In Panama City, UMO Candidates dive with multiple underwater breathing apparatuses including SCUBA, full face mask surface supplied rigs, hard hat rigs and rebreather rigs. Candidates who complete the entire course are designated as Naval UMOs.*
- *NUMI graduates about **28** UMOs a year.*

NOTABLE UMOs:

PAST

- *CAPT Charles Shilling – Founder of the Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory (1946)*
- *CAPT George Bond – Father of Saturation Diving (1957)*
- *VADM James Zimble – 30th Surgeon General of the Navy (1987)*
- *CAPT Laurel Clark – NASA Astronaut who died in Space Shuttle Columbia explosion (2003)*

PRESENT

- *RADM Bruce Gillingham – 39th Surgeon General of the Navy*
- *RDML Darin Via – Deputy Surgeon General of the Navy*
- *CAPT James Mucciarone – COMSUBPAC TYCOM Surgeon and UMO Specialty Leader*
- *CAPT Thomas Baldwin – NUMI OIC*

NAVAL SUBMARINE MEDICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY (NSMRL):

Mission: To sustain the readiness and superiority of our undersea warriors through innovative health and performance research.

- ***Established 25 June 1946**, NSMRL is the oldest continually operating Naval Medical Research & Development Laboratory.*
- *NSMRL is the Department of Defense's only laboratory dedicated to submarine medical research; however, it develops solutions for divers, SEALs, and Marines.*
- *Located in the "Submarine Capital of the World," NSMRL is a tenant command onboard Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Connecticut where the laboratory is integrally tied to the Fleet and supports several operational and training commands.*
- *The laboratory conducts studies of health and performance, psychological fitness and resiliency, human systems integration, atmospheric monitoring, underwater sound and blast, hearing conservation, diving and hyperbaric physiology, submarine escape and rescue, and undersea health epidemiology.*

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- *NSMRL leads the submarine force's psychological readiness assessment program for all prospective submariners. Recently the command improved this program by reducing the cost and manpower requirements. The assessment is also used to develop a student report to enhance the personal development of Sailors entrusted with Navy nuclear propulsion systems.*
- *NSMRL recently completed the first study of personal light treatment devices onboard a submarine, which showed promise for keeping the crew's circadian rhythms aligned with their assigned watch-standing schedules.*
- *NSMRL is completing data collection on the first-ever study of the effects of a submarine deployment on the human gut microbiome.*